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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/728,233	12/04/2003	Dennis Lawrence Nicholson	21765-2	7486

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EXAMINER

LU, JIPING

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3749

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/728,233

Applicant(s)

NICHOLSON, DENNIS  
LAWRENCE

Examiner

Jiping Lu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 June 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

2. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Jacobson (U. S. Pat. 6,499,227).

Jacobson shows a golf cart comprising at least one external surface 20 and an apparatus 10 with a body 35 having an inner surface and an outer surface that extends between a first end (top of strap 35) and an opposite second end (bottom of strap 35), a fastening mechanism (see Figs. 3A-3E) for securing the body inner surface against the at least one external surface and fastener 50 for coupling a glove to said at least one external surface which are arranged same as claimed.

3. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ellenburg (U. S. Pat. 5,983,518).

Ellenburg shows a golf cart 34 comprising at least one external surface 32 and an apparatus 10 with a body 24. The body 24 has two opposite ends (top and bottom). The body also has an inner surface (at 26) and outer surface (at 24). The inner surface is in substantial contact between the two opposite ends against said at least one external surface 32 of the golf cart during operation of the golf cart. The body's outer surface (at 24) has a fastening mechanism 12, 14, 19, 26, 28, 30, 36, 38 for removably coupling a glove 36 to said body 19, 24 such that the glove 36 remains coupled to said apparatus during operation of the golf cart 34.

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For claim 7, Fig. 1 clearly shows a conventional golf cart 34 with a passenger compartment, one frame support 32 adjacent to the passenger compartment, a dashboard (not numbered below steering wheel), a roof over the passenger compartment same as the applicant's. A glove drying system (fig. 2) is also disclosed. Fig. 2 is identical to the broadly claimed features in claims 1-15. The drying system has a body 19, 24 with an inner surface (at 26) and outer surface (at 24). The inner surface is in substantial contact between the two opposite ends against said at least one external surface 32 of the golf cart during operation of the golf cart 34. The body's outer surface (at 24) has a fastening mechanism 12, 14, 19, 26, 28, 30, 38 for removably coupling a glove to said body 24 such that the glove remains coupled to said apparatus during operation of the golf cart 34.

For claim 13, Ellenburg also shows a method of drying a damp golf glove. The drying golf glove drying system includes providing a golf cart 34 with at least one external surface 32 same as the applicant's. Ellenburg also provides an apparatus 10 with a body 19, 24. The body 19, 24 has two opposite ends (top and bottom). The body also has an inner surface (at 26) and outer surface (at 24). The inner surface is in substantial contact between the two opposite ends against said at least one external surface 32 of the golf cart during operation of the golf cart. The body's outer surface (at 24) has a fastening mechanism 12, 14, 19, 26, 28, 30, 36, 38 for removably coupling a glove 36 to said body 19, 24 such that the glove 36 remains coupled to said apparatus during operation of the golf cart 34.

### ***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments filed 6/18/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. First, broad claims at issue fail to structurally define over the prior art references. The references to Jacobson and Ellenburg clearly show a body with inner surface and an outer surface that extends between a first end and an opposite second end (i. e. top and bottom end of element 35, 24, respectively). Second, in pages 9 and 10 of the Remarks, the applicant argues that the Ellenburg patent uses a shaft 19 extending outwardly a distance from a golf cart. However, the examiner has interpreted that shaft 19 is a part of the fastening mechanism 12, 14, 19, 26, 28, 30, 36, 38 same as the broad claims. Therefore, broad claims remain rejected under 35 USC 102. Third, The rejection of claim 1 is equally applicable to claims 7 and 13 for the same reason as stated above. Fourth, the applicant also argues that all other dependent claims should have been allowable for the same reason and arguments as stated for the independent claims. The examiner disagrees because the independent claims were rejected under 35 USC 102. The dependent claims added nothing but conventional features which also shown by the prior art references.

### ***Conclusion***

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO**

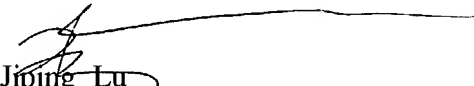
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MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jiping Lu whose telephone number is 703-308-2354. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ira Lazarus can be reached on 703 308-1935. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jiping Lu  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3749

J. L.